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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

10/17/2007

H. JAY SPIEGAL AND ASSOCIATES PC P.O. BOX 11 MOUNT VERMON, VA 22121

| EXA | AMINER |
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| PARVI | NI, PEGAH |
| ART UNIT | .PAPER NUMBER |
| 1755 | |

DATE MAILED: 10/17/2007

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. | |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|--|
| 10/553.849 | 10/20/2005 | Hirovasu Saka | TAN-355 | 6309 | |

10/553,849 10/20/2005 Hiroyasu Saka

TITLE OF INVENTION: METHOD FOR TOUGHENING SURFACE OF SINTERRED MATERIAL CUTTING TOOL AND SINTERED MATERIAL CUTTING TOOL HAVING LONG LIFE

| | APPLN. TYPE | SMALL ENTITY | ISSUE FEE DUE | PUBLICATION FEE DUE | PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE | TOTAL FEE(S) DUE | DATE DUE |
|---|----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------|
| • | nonprovisional | NO | \$1440 | \$300 | \$0 | \$1740 | 01/17/2008 |

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current **SMALL ENTITY status:**

- A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.
- B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B -Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or
- B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.
- II. PART B FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.
- III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandra 2027

or Fax (571)-273-2885

| annronriate All further | correspondence includired below or directed oth | or the Patent advance of | rders and notification of a) specifying a new corre | maintenance fees w spondence address; | /ill be r and/or | mailed to the current of the current | orrespondence address as ate "FEE ADDRESS" for |
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| CURRENT CORRESPONDI | ENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Bl | ock 1 for any change of address) | Fee | e(s) Transmittal. Thi pers. Each additiona | is certifi I paper. | can only be used for icate cannot be used fo such as an assignmen ling or transmission. | domestic mailings of the rany other accompanying tor formal drawing, must |
| H. JAY SPIEG P.O. BOX 11 MOUNT VERM | AL AND ASSOC | ZIATES PC | I h Sta ado trai | Cer creby certify that th tes Postal Service w lressed to the Mail asmitted to the USP | tificate is Fcc(s vith suff Stop TO (57 | of Mailing or Transm s) Transmittal is being ficient postage for first ISSUE FEE address a l) 273-2885, on the da | dission deposited with the United class mail in an envelope bove, or being facsimile the indicated below. |
| | • | | | | | | (Depositor's name) |
| | | | | | | | (Signature) |
| | | | | | | | (Date) |
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| EXAM | INER | ART UNIT | CLASS-SUBCLASS |] | | | |
| PARVINI | , PEGAH | 1755 | 051-307000 | | | | |
| CFR 1.363). Change of corresp Address form PTO/SE "Fee Address" ind PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-0 Number is required. ASSIGNEE NAME A PLEASE NOTE: Unl | css an assignee is ident h in 37 CFR 3.11. Comp | nge of Correspondence I Indication form and. Use of a Customer A TO BE PRINTED ON ified below, no assignce | 2. For printing on the (1) the names of up to agents OR, alternat (2) the name of a sing registered attorney or 2 registered patent attelisted, no name will be THE PATENT (print or ty data will appear on the pT a substitute for filing an (B) RESIDENCE: (CIT | o 3 registered patentively, le firm (having as a agent) and the name or agents. If a printed. pe) patent. If an assign assignment. | members of up | cr a 2 | cument has been filed for |
| Please check the appropri | iate assignee category or | categories (will not be pr | rinted on the patent) : | Individual 🗆 Co | rporati | on or other private grou | p entity Government |
| | are submitted: o small entity discount p f of Copics | permitted) | b. Payment of Fcc(s): (Ple A check is enclosed. Payment by credit ca The Director is hereb overpayment, to Depe | rd. Form PTO-2038 | is atta | ched. | • |
| a. Applicant claims | tus (from status indicated s SMALL ENTITY statu d Publication Fee (if requ | us. See 37 CFR 1.27. | □ b. Applicant is no lor | nger claiming SMAI | LL ENT | TITY status. See 37 CF | R 1.27(g)(2). |
| nterest as shown by the r | ecords of the United Sta | tes Patent and Trademark | c Office. | • | | | |
| Authorized Signature | | | | Date | | • | |
| Typed or printed name | e | | | Registration N | lo | | |
| This collection of information application. Confident ubmitting the completed his form and/or suggestion. | ation is required by 37 C iality is governed by 35 I application form to the ons for reducing this bur- inginia 22213 1450 Dec | FR 1.311. The informatic U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR USPTO. Time will vary den, should be sent to the | on is required to obtain or 1.14. This collection is es depending upon the indice Chief Information Office COMMETERS FORMS | retain a benefit by the timated to take 12 revidual case. Any corr. U.S. Patent and | he publi ninutes mments Tradem | ic which is to file (and to complete, including s on the amount of tim tark Office, U.S. Depar | by the USPTO to process) gathering, preparing, and e you require to complete tment of Commerce, P.O. |

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| 75 | 90 10/17/2007 | EXAM | EXAMINER | | | |
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Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 104 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 104 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.